

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

- 1 1. (Previously presented) A microphone comprising:
  - 2 a) a plurality of electrical contacts for interfacing with an external device;
  - 3 and
  - 4 b) a circuit within the microphone, connected to at least one electrical
  - 5 contact, which transmits data about the microphone to the external device
  - 6 through the at least one electrical contact.
  
- 1 2. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit forces the voltage  
2 potential between the at least one electrical contact and another of the plurality of  
3 electrical contacts to be zero.
  
- 1 3. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit forces the voltage  
2 potential between the at least one electrical contact and a ground electrical contact  
3 to be zero.
  
- 1 4. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit includes a resistor  
2 having a first and a second terminal, the first resistor terminal being connected to  
3 the at least one electrical contact, the second resistor terminal connected to  
4 another of the plurality of electrical contacts.
  
- 1 5. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit includes a  
2 capacitor having a first and a second terminal, the first capacitor terminal being

3 connected to the at least one electrical contact, the second capacitor terminal  
4 connected to another of the plurality of electrical contacts.

1 6. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit includes an  
2 inductor having a first and a second terminal, the first inductor terminal being  
3 connected to the at least one electrical contact, the second inductor terminal  
4 connected to another of the plurality of electrical contacts.

1 7. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit includes a  
2 programmable read only memory storing data that identifies at least one of the  
3 following: the microphone manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the  
4 microphone model number, the microphone serial number, the microphone  
5 frequency response, whether the microphone uses phantom power, the desired  
6 pre-amplifier gain, and the microphone dynamic response.

1 8. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit includes a serial  
2 programmable read only memory storing data that identifies at least one of the  
3 following: the microphone manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the  
4 microphone model number, the microphone serial number, the microphone  
5 frequency response, whether the microphone uses phantom power, the desired  
6 pre-amplifier gain, or the microphone dynamic response.

1 9. (Original) The microphone of claim 1 where the circuit includes a serial  
2 electrically erasable programmable read only memory storing data that identifies  
3 at least one of the following: the microphone manufacturer, the microphone  
4 manufacture date, the microphone model number, the microphone serial number,  
5 the microphone frequency response, whether the microphone uses phantom  
6 power, the desired pre-amplifier gain, or the microphone dynamic response.

1 10. (Previously presented) An interface unit comprising:  
2 a) a first connector having a plurality of electrical contacts for interfacing  
3 with a microphone, wherein the microphone transmits data about the  
4 microphone to the interface unit through the first connector; and  
5 b) a second connector having a plurality of electrical contacts for interfacing  
6 with a computer system via a digital bus;  
7 wherein the interface unit is operable to obtain data from the microphone,  
8 about the microphone; and  
9 wherein the interface unit is operable to transmit the data to the computer  
10 system.

1 11. (Original) The interface unit of claim 10 further comprising:  
2 c) an amplifier for amplifying an analog signal received from the  
3 microphone;  
4 d) an analog-to-digital converter, coupled to the amplifier;  
5 e) a buffer, coupled to the analog-to-digital converter;  
6 f) a bus interface coupled to the buffer; and  
7 g) an I/O port for communicating with a computer system.

1 12. (Original) The interface unit of claim 11, wherein the analog-to-digital  
2 converter is also coupled to a microphone bias circuit.

1 13. (Original) The interface unit of claim 11, wherein the analog-to-digital  
2 converter is also coupled to a microphone bias circuit that contains a resistor  
3 having a first terminal and a second terminal, the first resistor terminal connected  
4 to at least one of the first connector's plurality of electrical contacts.

1 14. (Original) The interface unit of claim 11, wherein the first connector's  
2 plurality of electrical contacts includes a first electrical contact and a second  
3 electrical contact;  
4 wherein the bus interface is coupled to the first electrical contact, which contains  
5 a serial clock signal; and  
6 wherein the bus interface is coupled to the second electrical contact, which  
7 contains serial data signals.

1 15. (Original) The interface unit of claim 11, further comprising a switch that  
2 is configured to identify a physical parameter of a microphone.

1 16. (Original) The interface unit of claim 15, wherein the switch is coupled to  
2 the bus interface.

1 17. (Original) The bus interface of claim 10 further comprising a third  
2 connector for interfacing with a second microphone.

1 18. (Original) The interface unit of claim 10 further comprising a third  
2 connector for interfacing with another interface unit.

1 19. (Previously presented) A microphone comprising:  
2 a) a connector having a plurality of electrical contacts for interfacing with a  
3 computer system via a digital bus; and  
4 b) wherein the microphone is operable to transmit data about the microphone  
5 to the computer system via the connector, wherein the microphone includes  
6 data about the microphone.

1 20. (Original) The microphone of claim 19 further comprising a  
2 programmable read only memory storing data that identifies at least one of the

3 following: the microphone manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the  
4 microphone model number, the microphone serial number, the microphone  
5 frequency response, whether the microphone uses phantom power, the desired  
6 pre-amplifier gain, and the microphone dynamic response.

1 21. (Original) The microphone of claim 19 further comprising a serial  
2 programmable read only memory storing data that identifies at least one of the  
3 following: the microphone manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the  
4 microphone model number, the microphone serial number, the microphone  
5 frequency response, whether the microphone uses phantom power, the desired  
6 pre-amplifier gain, or the microphone dynamic response.

1 22. (Original) The microphone of claim 19 further comprising a serial  
2 electrically erasable programmable read only memory storing data that identifies  
3 at least one of the following: the microphone manufacturer, the microphone  
4 manufacture date, the microphone model number, the microphone serial number,  
5 the microphone frequency response, whether the microphone uses phantom  
6 power, the desired pre-amplifier gain, or the microphone dynamic response.

1 23. (Previously presented) A method of transferring data to a computer  
2 system, the method comprising:  
3 a) interfacing a microphone with an interface unit, wherein the microphone  
4 transmits data about the microphone to the interface unit;  
5 b) interfacing the interface unit with a computer system; and  
6 c) transferring data about the microphone from the interface unit to the  
7 computer system.

1 24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising modifying at least  
2 one setting in the computer system based at least in part on the transferred data.

1 25. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising modifying at least  
2 one setting in the interface unit based at least in part on the transferred data.

1 26. (Previously presented) A method of transferring data to a computer  
2 system, the method comprising:

- 3 a) interfacing a microphone with a computer system, wherein the
- 4 microphone transmits data about the microphone to the interface unit; and
- 5 b) transmitting data about the microphone, from the microphone to the
- 6 computer system.

1 27. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising modifying at least  
2 one setting in the computer system based at least in part on the transferred data.

1 28. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising modifying at least  
2 one setting in the microphone based at least in part on the transferred data.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The microphone of claim of 1, wherein the data  
2 about the microphone identifies at least one of the following: the microphone  
3 manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the microphone model number,  
4 the microphone serial number, the microphone frequency response, whether the  
5 microphone uses phantom power, the desired pre-amplifier gain, and the  
6 microphone dynamic response.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The interface unit of claim of 10, wherein the data  
2 about the microphone is related to at least one of the following: the microphone  
3 manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the microphone model number,  
4 the microphone serial number, the microphone frequency response, whether the

5 microphone uses phantom power, the desired pre-amplifier gain, and the  
6 microphone dynamic response.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The microphone of claim 19, wherein the data  
2 transmitted is related to at least one of the following: the microphone  
3 manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the microphone model number,  
4 the microphone serial number, the microphone frequency response, whether the  
5 microphone uses phantom power, the desired pre-amplifier gain, and the  
6 microphone dynamic response.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the data about  
2 the microphone is related to at least one of the following: the microphone  
3 manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the microphone model number,  
4 the microphone serial number, the microphone frequency response, whether the  
5 microphone uses phantom power, the desired pre-amplifier gain, and the  
6 microphone dynamic response.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the data about  
2 the microphone is related to at least one of the following: the microphone  
3 manufacturer, the microphone manufacture date, the microphone model number,  
4 the microphone serial number, the microphone frequency response, whether the  
5 microphone uses phantom power, the desired pre-amplifier gain, and the  
6 microphone dynamic response.